

# MINK

Ten mink farms in Washington produced 94,600 pelts in 2003, down 14 percent from 2002. By color class, 30.4 percent of the pelts produced were Black, 14.2 percent of the pelts were Demi-Wild and 55.4 percent of the pelts were Blue Iris. The average price per

mink pelt is not estimated at the state level; however, at the U.S. level pelts averaged \$40.10 for the 2003 crop year, 31 percent above the 2002 price of \$30.60. Females bred in 2004 to produce kits totaled 24,300, up 1,400 females from the previous year.

## Mink: Pelts Produced By Color Class, Washington, 1994-2003 1/

Year	Black	Demi-Wild	Blue Iris	Mahogany	Other	Total	Number of Operations
1,000 Pelts							Number
1994	66.0	*	22.5	0.0	20.2	108.7	24
1995	67.1	*	25.5	*	12.4	105.0	20
1996	68.0	*	33.0	*	16.0	117.0	19
1997	62.8	*	41.0	*	17.6	121.4	19
1998	57.7	*	59.3	*	25.6	142.6	20
1999	45.0	*	67.9	*	16.3	129.2	18
2000	37.3	*	57.4	*	18.0	112.7	16
2001	35.5	*	63.1	*	14.5	113.1	15
2002	42.6	18.5	48.9	*	0.0	110.0	15
<b>2003</b>	<b>28.8</b>	<b>13.4</b>	<b>52.4</b>	<b>*</b>	<b>0.0</b>	<b>94.6</b>	<b>10</b>

\* Included in "Other" category to avoid disclosure of individual operations.

1/ New color classes starting for 2002 pelts. Black - formerly Standard, includes Pure Dark; Demi-Wild - includes Dark Brown, Ranch Wild, Demi-buff; Blue Iris - formerly Gunmetal, includes Aleutian.

## Females Bred to Produce Kits, By Color Class, Washington, 1995-2004 1/

Year	Black	Demi-Wild	Blue Iris	Mahogany	Other	Total
1,000 Head						
1995	16.7	*	6.5	*	2.4	25.6
1996	16.4	*	8.2	*	2.9	27.5
1997	17.0	*	10.4	*	3.5	30.9
1998	14.9	*	12.6	*	3.8	31.3
1999	11.8	*	15.1	*	2.7	29.6
2000	9.0	*	14.9	*	2.7	26.6
2001	9.6	2.8	12.7	*	-	25.1
2002	9.3	*	14.5	*	5.1	28.9
2003	7.7	4.3	10.7	0.2	0.0	22.9
<b>2004</b>	<b>10.5</b>	<b>2.9</b>	<b>10.9</b>	<b>0.0</b>	<b>0.0</b>	<b>24.3</b>

\* Included in "Other" category to avoid disclosure of individual operations.

1/ New color classes starting for female mink bred in 2003. Black - formerly Standard, includes Pure Dark; Demi-Wild - includes Dark Brown, Ranch Wild, Demi-buff; Blue Iris - formerly Gunmetal, includes Aleutian.